

## **IMPORTANT SEPTEMBER DATES:**

9/8: PTO Social, 5:30pm, Media Center

9/8: 7th/8th Grade Open House, 6:30pm

9/9: SAC/SAF Meeting, 8:15am, Media Center

9/9: PTO Meeting, 9:30am, Media Center

9/13: Interim Reports, Virtual Counselor

9/26: No School

Dear Westglades Family,

This has been an exciting year so far and our teachers and staff are so happy to have our students back at school. We were excited to see our 6th Grade parents at Open House on September 1st and can't wait to see our 7th and 8th Grade parents on Thursday, September 8th at 6:30pm. We are also looking forward to inviting parents out for a movie and resource night that should assist parents with their children after coming out of pandemic.

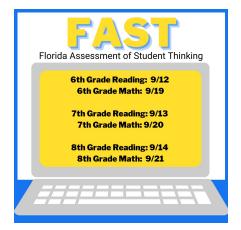


10/5: No School

10/17: Picture Makeup Day

10/20: Early Release Day, Dismissal 1:45pm

10/21: No School



We will have a Westglades Middle School Movie Night for parents on Thursday, 9/22 at 6:00pm in our Media Center. During the pandemic, our children became more and more accustomed to using technology to communicate and socialize with one another. Some of them have become even more dependent on their devices than even previous groups of teens. The movie that we'll watch will be called <a href="SCREENAGERS">SCREENAGERS</a> and it addresses some of the concerns that parents may have with their children's growing dependence on cell phones, computers, and video games. There will be a discussion and resources available for parents that will assist them with this issue.

This year, standardized testing has moved from the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) to the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST). The FAST will be administered in math and language arts 3 times per year (September, December, and May). Students in Algebra, Geometry, Biology, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science, and Civics will continue to take their EOC's in May as well. Information about the <u>new testing process is included on our website</u>.

Clubs and Athletics are an amazing way to have your child meet new friends and form positive peer relationships in a safe and secure environment. We are happy that our athletic programs are underway. You can view all of our <u>tentative tryout dates</u>, <u>coaching information</u>, and even <u>purchase tickets</u> on our school website. We have also started our clubs and are adding new clubs all the time. Please check out the <u>club calendar</u> on our website and encourage your child to participate.

As always, parents are encouraged to have an active voice at WMS by attending monthly <u>SAC meetings</u>. Information about these meetings will be shared on our website. We look forward to all of the great things that October brings to Westglades Middle School! ~Matthew Bianchi, Principal









#### **IMPORTANT WMS CONTACTS**



Main Office: 754-322-4800 Absence Line: 754-322-4802 School Hours: 9:15am-3:45pm Early Release Day Hours: 9:15-1:45pm

## **Administration Team**

Matthew Bianchi - Principal Matthew.Bianchi@browardschools.com

Shaante Collie - 6th Grade Shaante.Collie@browardschools.com

Shari Schwartz - 7th Grade Shari.Schwartz@browardschools.com

Jon LaRosa - 8th Grade Jon.LaRosa@browardschools.com

## **Guidance Team**

Suzanne Desrosiers- Guidance Director Suzanne.Desrosiers@browardschools.com

Takeacea Mitchell - 6th Grade Takeacea.Mitchell@browardschools.com

Monica Garcia - 7th Grade Monica.Garcia@browardschools.com

Suzanne Desrosiers - 8th Grade Suzanne.Desrosiers@browardschools.com

### **ESE**

Dione Reed Dione.Reed@browardschools.com

### **BOOKKEEPER**

Brenda Martorana Brenda.Martorana@browardschools.com

### **REGISTRAR**

Chanda James Chanda.James@browardschools.com

# BACK TO SCHOOL ONLINE FORMS



☐ Parents/Guardians, please be sure to☐ complete your child's back-to-school forms, online. You must complete these forms at the start of each school year for each student enrolled in the District. Once you complete and submit the forms, you will receive an email confirmation. Print and return the confirmation to your child's school.

**BACK TO SCHOOL FORMS** 

# ATTENTION PARENTS OF ALL CURRENT 7th GRADERS

Prior to entering the 7th grade, all students must provide a Florida Certificate of Immunization (DH 680) stating that their immunizations are complete for 7th grade entry. Please note that in addition to compliance with all other required immunizations, children entering the 7th grade in Florida schools must have received one dose of the tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) vaccine.

Your child may need additional immunizations and/or you may just need to turn in the updated DH 680 form. You may request the form from your child's physician's office or visit a public health center.

Please email your child's updated immunization form to our Registrar at

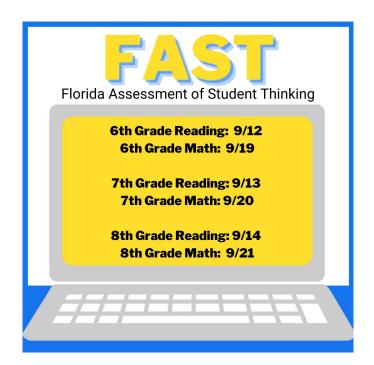
Chanda.James@browardschools.com.



WESTGLADESMIDDLE.COM



@WESTGLADESPTO.COM



All WMS students will participate in the first administration of the Grade 6-8 Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Reading and Mathematics assessments on the following dates:

6th Grade Reading 9/12 6th Grade Math\* 9/19

7th Grade Reading 9/13 7th Grade Math\* 9/20

8th Grade Reading 9/14 8th Grade Math\* 9/21

\*Students enrolled in an EOC Math course (Algebra or Geometry) will not participate in the FAST assessment, they will be doing EOC prep work during that time and will take their EOC in May.

\*8th grade students will continue to take the 8th grade science test and the students taking Biology will take the Biology EOC in May.

\*7th grade students enrolled in GEARS 2 will take the 8th grade science test in May. \*All 7th grade students will take the Civics EOC in May.

For additional information and the FAST Parent Letter, please visit <a href="WestgladesMiddle.com">WestgladesMiddle.com</a>. For specific questions regarding your child's testing, email Ms. Keery, the WMS Testing Coordinator at Andrea. Keery@browardschools.com.



We have amazing extra-curricular programs and activities available to students at Westglades. Please take a moment to check them out on our website under the Activities Tab. In addition, students will be invited to visit the WMS Club Fair during their lunch period on Friday, September 16th.

# **WMS CLUBS CALENDAR**

Book Club
Broward Youth Coalition
Creative Writing
Debate
DECA In the MIddle
FFEA
Gardening
Harvest Drive
Howl Book
Math Club
Rock Climbing
SADD
Student Government
Tennis

Youth Mountain Bike

# STUDENT ID BADGES



All students have been issued school identification cards. The cards must be worn on WMS lanyards around the students' neck every single day.

# SCHOOL LUNCH INFO.

Our Food and Nutrition Services Cafeteria offers a variety and well-balanced nutritious meals at a low cost. The cost for School Lunch is \$2.45. You can prepay for school lunch at this link:. Online Meal Payments

Apply for Free and Reduced lunch by clicking the link below. The deadline is 9/28.

Free and Reduced Lunch Applications

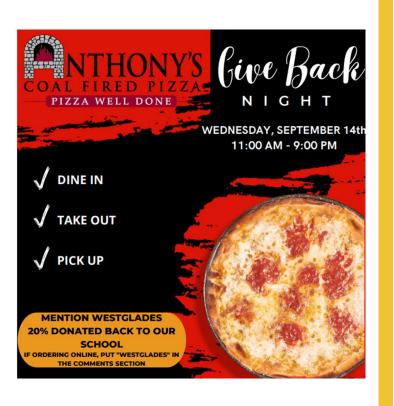
# RANDOM METAL DETECTION PROGRAM

The Broward County Public Schools Random Metal Detection Program has been established to prevent, deter, and curtail the introduction of weapons into our schools. Classrooms are randomly selected throughout the District to be screened through the use of a random selection model.

All Westglades Middle School students in the selected classrooms will be subject to the screening process, which will be conducted using hand-held metal detection wands. This process will be used at schools throughout the District at random and DOES NOT mean that there has been any threat made on the campus when the random metal detection occurs at a school.

For more information, please watch the video from Superintendent Cartwright.

Random Metal Detection Program Message





To become a WMS Volunteer, please visit: <a href="https://www.browardschools.com/volunteer">https://www.browardschools.com/volunteer</a> and select the link for the 2022-23 volunteer application. Once approved, you will get an email from RAPTOR that will give you access to your volunteer account where you can check your hours or manually add hours that were not recorded by the system (like after-hours events). Once you are approved, come into the Westglades Single Point Office and sign in as a volunteer to activate your status.



Need a digital library book? Students can check out digital books from the Westglades Library through the Axis 360 app on your phone or tablet. You can also read books digitally through the Follett Destiny app on your Clever page.

Take the WMS library with you wherever you go; download the Axis 360 app today. Questions: See Ms. Stratos in the Media Center.



The Scholastic Book Fair is coming! Our Fall Book Fair will be on campus from 10/3-10/7/2022. All students will attend with their ELA teacher.

For your convenience, you may add funds to your student's e-wallet. Prior to your attending the Book Fair, use this link to add funds to their <a href="SCHOLASTIC e-WALLET">SCHOLASTIC e-WALLET</a>.

Anyone can contribute to an eWallet.

It's perfect for spoiling grandkids, nieces, and nephews. It's as easy as sharing your eWallet link with friends and family. See you at the Book Fair!



Your PTO is ready to engage with WMS families all year long. Purchase your Membership today to continue to support the Westglades PTO and help initiate positive changes within our school. When you purchase your <a href="PTO Membership">PTO Membership</a>, you will receive a discount card to various local businesses. Please consider doing so today to continue to receive our weekly newsletter with information and reminders.

Mark your calendars! The first PTO meeting will be held on Friday, September 9th at 9:30AM in the Media Center. Principal Bianchi will be in attendance to provide updates and information for this upcoming school year. Mayor Rich Walker will be our Guest Speaker so please come prepared with questions you wish to be answered about our city! We hope to see all of you there!

Purchase a Family Banner today! Your banner will be displayed proudly on the Inner Fence of our school. 100% of your donation will directly benefit Westglades for improvements in a variety of programs, including but not limited to, technology, educational resources, spirit campaigns, teacher and staff appreciation, campus beautification and many others. Check the fence this week to view the new Family Banners!

The PTO Spirit Committee has handed out many spirit tickets the past couple of weeks! Please be sure your students have placed their tickets in the Spirit Boxes located in the cafeteria to be entered into the drawing to win prizes. Don't forget EVERY FRIDAY wear your Westglades apparel and show your school spirit!







## SUICIDE IS PREVENTABLE

- ASK. Talk about suicide in a compassionate way.
- KEEP THEM SAFE. Remove access to lethal options.
- LISTEN. Be present and don't judge.
- STAY CONNECTED. Create a support network.
- FOLLOW-UP. Ongoing contact with professionals is key.

Broward County Public Schools can help students at risk of suicide. If you or a friend is depressed or despairing, please get help.

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Dial 9-8-8 Crisis Text Line: Text "TALK" to 741741 Trevor Project (LGBTQIA+): Text "START" to 678678









# SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th IS WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender expression, genetic information, andirolal origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouls and other designated youth groups, Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or horassment complaint may contact the Director, of the Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department 8. District's Equity Coordinator/fille IX Coordinatoriator at 7543-21-2150 or Teletype Machine (ITT) 754-321-2158. Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), may contact the Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department at 734-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (ITT) 734-321-2158. Drowardschools.com

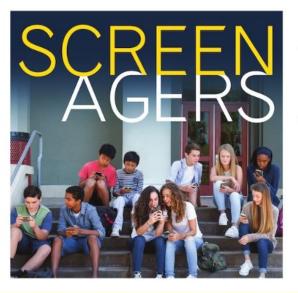
# THINGS THAT CAN HELP MENTAL HEALTH:

- Make a list of 3 self-care strategies to try
- Reach out to a counselor
- Start a journal
- · Learn a breathing practice
- · Read a great book
- Paint or draw
- Name three things you are grateful for right now
- · Close your eyes and take a long, deep breath
- · Thank someone for being your family





# WESTGLADES MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTS: SCREENAGERS MOVIE NIGHT



An award-winning film that probes into the vulnerable corners of family life and depicts struggles over social media, video games and academics. The film offers solutions on how we can help our kids navigate the digital world.

Screenagers reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and also offers solutions on how adults can empower their kids to best navigate the digital world to find balance.

# JOIN US! THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 MEDIA CENTER, 6:00PM

Prior to the movie, you are invited to visit our Vendor Walk beginning at 5:30pm. Vendors include:

City of Parkland Library
Eagles Haven
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Garden
Parkland Recreational Activities Center
Student Tutoring Services
Westglades' Student Clubs



DISTRIBUTION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT OR RECOMMENDATION BY BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS





# 2022 FALL ONSITE TUTORING

## AT WESTGLADES MS

FALL SESSION: SEPT 6 - JAN 31

ROLLING ADMISSIONS
FOR ALL NEIGHBORHOOD CHILDREN 6TH -12TH GRADES

Tutoring is still crucial because of the ongoing COVID Crisis.

Prepare your student to excel. Two or more hours of tutoring a week can make a difference in your child's self-confidence and success in school.

Our staff includes the finest certified middle & high school teachers

Individual programs to meet your child's needs

Maximum 4 students to a teacher 1/3 the price of National Learning Centers

- Reading Comprehension & Writing
- Mathematics
- Homework Help
- Remediation, Review & Enrichment

This award-winning program has successfully serviced elementary, middle & high school students from Coral Springs, Parkland & Coconut Creek since 2005.

### FEES

\$30/hour per student

+ \$30 family annual registration fee good through May 2023

\* no tutoring on early release days or no-school days

#### **TUTORING OPTIONS**

4 pm-5 pm OR 5pm - 6pm Choose one or both sessions: Monday and Wednesday Tuesday and Thursday

Study Zone of South Florida is a Non-Profit FL Corporation.

**Questions? Ready to Register?** 

Call 561-558-0036 & 877-338-8867 Email StudyZoneFloridaegmail.com